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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

EXAMINING GROUP 1641

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NOT ENTERED

In re Application of :

Berend HOUWEN, *et al.*

Serial No. 09/058,323

Filed: April 9, 1998

Examiner: Gailene R. Gabel

Art Unit: 1641

For: **PROCESS FOR DISCRIMINATING
AND COUNTING ERYTHROBLASTS**

New York, New York
June 3, 2002

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO RULE 116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed April 2, 2002, which sets forth a shortened statutory period of three months for response. As this Office Action made final the rejection of the claims, the applicable two-month period in which to file a reply, under MPEP §706.07(f)(A), expires on June 3, 2002, given that June 2, 2002 fell on a Sunday. 37 C.F. R. §1.7. Accordingly, this response is filed timely within the two-month period for reply to Final